Post-doctoral Visiting Fellowship Opportunity on Recovery Strategies for Depleted Populations of Pacific Salmon

Canadian Government Laboratory Visiting Fellow program

POST-DOCTORAL POSITION

We are seeking a Visiting Fellow to lead a research project on evaluating recovery strategies for depleted populations of Pacific salmon with Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO). The Principal Investigators of the project are Dr. Carrie Holt (Pacific Biological Station), Kendra Holt (Institute of Ocean Sciences) and Ann-Marie Huang (Annacis Island); key collaborators include representation from DFO Science and Fisheries Management: Mike Hawkshaw, Jeff Grout, Sarah Hawkshaw, and Robyn Forrest.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Our goal is to create a framework for developing recovery plans for Pacific salmon that evaluates trade-offs between conservation objectives and other fisheries management objectives. Within Canada, there are approximately 450 Conservation Units (CUs) of Pacific salmon, of which a large proportion have been assessed or are expected to be assessed with poor status below conservation thresholds. However, progress on implementing recovery strategies has been limited by a lack of tools to evaluate management actions. Our specific objectives are to identify management approaches (e.g., target exploitation rates, harvest control rules) to achieve recovery, and develop tools to identify CU-specific management actions. This will include exploring how to achieve targets in the context of multiple mixed-stock fisheries. The successful candidate will develop a simulation model within a Management Strategy Evaluation, MSE, context to evaluate a range of management strategies for achieving recovery and will consider environmental forcing of population dynamics that may impact productivity and confound recovery efforts. The project will work closely with fisheries management to link tool development with priorities for decision-making through a series of meetings and workshops.

ESSENTIAL ASSET QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants must have completed a PhD in fisheries science or a related discipline within the past five years. Experience using R programming language is essential. Candidates with experience in simulation modelling of population dynamics on marine fish species and evaluating impacts on fisheries and management will be given priority. Successful candidates will have a proven capacity to publish in peer-reviewed journals. Those who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada must satisfy Canadian immigration requirements.

LOCATION OF TENURE FLEXIBLE: Pacific Biological Station (PBS), Nanaimo, BC; Institute of Ocean Sciences (IOS), Sidney, BC; or Annacis Island, Delta, BC. The west coast of Canada, and Vancouver Island in particular, is well known for its rainforests, beaches, and mountains. It is a destination for kayaking, hiking, surfing, skiing, diving, biking and camping.
POSITION DETAILS AND HOW TO APPLY

This fellowship is available to start **October 1, 2017** and will be completed **September 31, 2019** with a salary of $62,000 CAD per annum. The Canadian Government Laboratory Visiting Fellow program is administered by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC). More details about the program can be found at: [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/Laboratories-Laboratoires/index_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PD-NP/Laboratories-Laboratoires/index_eng.asp). All candidates must meet NSERC eligibility requirements [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/students-etudiants_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Eligibility-Admissibilite/students-etudiants_eng.asp).

CONTACT

Interested applicants should email: 1) CV; and 2) cover letter outlining the experience and skills they bring to the project to: Carrie Holt, carrie.holt@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Short-listed applicants will be invited to develop a full application through the NSERC system. CVs will be accepted until the position is filled.